

REMARKS

Method claim 1 and base article claim 4 have been amended to clearly recite the liquid seal formed about fuel discharging from the nozzle and its function of entraining recirculated vapor into the tank.

The Examiner has rejected Applicant's claims over the teachings of Allison and the prior art teachings of FIG. 5 of the present application.

The system of Allison shows in FIG. 8 thereof a mechanical seal (212) disposed in the upper end of the filler neck for sealing about a nozzle inserted into the filler neck.

The prior art structure shown in FIG. 5 of the present application does not use a mechanical seal about the nozzle but shows the lower end of the filler neck restricted about the nozzle.

Applicant's claimed invention utilizes both a mechanical seal and a liquid seal about the nozzle to facilitate entrainment of vapor for recirculation into the tank. This structure is neither taught nor suggested by the teachings of the prior art references. Accordingly, it is submitted that the Examiner's combination of the references is arbitrary and not based upon any suggestion or teachings thereof. Accordingly, it is submitted that Applicant's claims define patentable subject matter; and, it is requested that the rejection be withdrawn and the amended claims allowed.

Respectfully submitted,



Roger A. Johnston
Registration No.: 25,880
Attorney for Applicant

Eaton Corporation
1111 Superior Avenue
Cleveland, Ohio 44114-2584

(216) 523-4132